

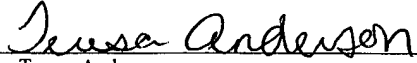
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

DOCKET NUMBER	ANTICIPATED CLASSIFICATION OF THIS APPLICATION:		PRIOR APPLICATION	
	CLASS	SUBCLASS	EXAMINER	ART UNIT
10873.0577USC1			Brian E. Miller	2652

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10:

"Express Mail" mailing label number: EV347845025US
Date of Deposit: March 26, 2004

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

By: 
Name: Teresa Anderson

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application, which is not an application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d). Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2) and § 1.98(d), copies have been provided only for those items listed on the enclosed Form 1449 that have not previously been cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in parent application, U.S. Serial No. 09/673919 filed on October 23, 2000.

A concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language document or other information is as follows (37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)):

Enclosed is a copy of the Japanese Office Action citing JP 7-210915.
Enclosed is a copy of JP 7-210915 with partial translation.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to

establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

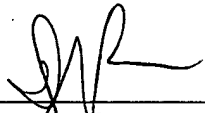


Dated: March 26, 2004

DPM:mmm

Respectfully submitted,

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By 

Douglas P. Mueller
Reg. No. 30,300

FORM 1449* INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number: 10873.0577USC1	Application Number: filed here within
	Applicant: MURAKAMI et al.	
	Filing Date: filed here within	Group Art Unit: 2652

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
	US 5,663,937	09/2/1997	TAKAHASHI				
	US 5,590,095	12/31/1996	CHAYA				
	US 5,604,719	02/18/1997	KAKIMOTO et al.				
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	US 6,084,747	07/04/2000	TAKAHASHI				
	US 5,710,745	Jan. 1998	GETREUER				
	US 5,963,402	Oct. 1999	EGAWA et al.				
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	JP 5- 128616	05/25/1993	JAPAN				
	JP 6-60585	03/4/1994	JAPAN				

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.	

FORM 1449* INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number: 10873.0577USC1	Application Number: filed here within
	Applicant: MURAKAMI et al.	
	Filing Date: filed here within	Group Art Unit: 2652

	JP 10-312502	11/24/1998	JAPAN				
	JP 9-245449	09/19/1997	JAPAN				
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	JP 63-244432	Oct. 1988	JAPAN				
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	JP 10-255205	Sept. 1998	JAPAN				
	JP 2000-132803	May 2000	JAPAN				
	JP 7-210915	Aug. 1995	JAPAN			Partial	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

23552 PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE	DATE CONSIDERED
	EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.